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Official Diary

Saturday, 29 December 1951

HR70-14

2. Discussed with Knight McMahon the following:

- a. Informed him that the matter of delay in the Navy flash item respecting a submarine attack would be on the agenda of the next IAC meeting and requested that he check the accuracy of my memorandum to the Director concerning this incident. Mr. McMahon felt that it would be wise for the Director to request that teletype connection be made with Service operational offices so that all such messages would be received in CIA and he undertook to prepare a paper covering this point for the next IAC meeting.
- b. Mr. McMahon also raised the advisability of initiating an "IAC Watch" which would be on a 24-hour basis and would be staffed by all of the participating agencies. We agreed that this question could be deferred for further consideration, but Mr. McMahon will outline such a recommendation in a paper for later consideration.
- c. Informed Mr. McMahon of Mr. Dulles' desire that the recent flash respecting Chinese intentions in Indochina be reviewed in an effort to determine from the available evidence whether or not it was a bona fide emergency. Mr. McMahon undertook to have such a paper prepared.

3. Also discussed briefly with Mr. McMahon problems relating to relations between O/NE and O/CI.

4. After a discussion with Col. Hansen, I secured from the DCI [redacted] draft of a progress report from the DCI to the President and phoned [redacted] about it. I learned from him that all of the portions of this report as to which Hansen and I had had some question had been inserted at the express direction of the DCI and I agreed with [redacted] that in view of the circumstances no further coordination of the report was necessary. I also undertook to check the tabs for [redacted] and later ascertained from Mr. Wolf that the tab giving charts respecting the organization of CIA at two different periods had been coordinated with Mr. Wolf. I also informed [redacted] as to the nature of certain amendments to the report which I was suggesting to the DCI and I later wrote in these suggested amendments in the DCI's copy.

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6. Discussed briefly with Mr. Wolf the DCI's directive respecting OPC/OSO support and we agreed that neither ~~office~~ had any suggestions or corrections. I so advised the DCI by buckslip. *of US*

7. Had an extended discussion with the DCI as to the organization of the Office of EA/DCI. Reference was made to Mr. Earman and to Captain Ginniger and to [redacted]. The DCI expressed the desire that he not only be fully advised (by Log, etc.) but also that this office insure that action had been taken in accordance with his instructions, irrespective of whether or not such instructions were given to one or other of the deputies at the morning meeting. The DCI also agreed that the volume of reporting at the morning meeting could be substantially reduced. All of the questions discussed should be taken up with Mr. Earman immediately upon his return.

8. O/NE advised that no clearance had been obtained for Ambassador Grew who was coming in next week in order to look at some papers. O/NE is seeking to obtain Mr. Grew as a consultant, if desired by the DCI. I suggested that the matter of clearance or waiver should be taken care of by NE, but Miss Douglas later reported to me she had been unable to contact any responsible official in the office of Col. Edwards. I phoned Col. Edward's office and indicated that some emergency procedure would have to be established in order to enable such cases to be handled in an expeditious manner and so advised ONE.

9. In my conversation with the DCI he informed me that when he spoke to Admiral Johnson respecting the recent incident in which CIA was said to have requested four Naval personnel by name and the DCI had been informed that only one of the four had actually been requested by name, Johnson checked with the Naval personnel office which continued to maintain that all four had been requested by CIA by name. The DCI directed me to obtain a report on the facts and I passed this on to Mr. Wolf who informed me that Gen. Davison would have a report on this by Wednesday at the latest.

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10. As indicated above, during my conversation with the DCI, I took occasion to suggest the seriousness of the situation involving the Navy flash report of a submarine attack and he instructed me to have this matter placed on the formal IAC agenda for the next meeting. Mr. Long later informed me that since no NIE would be ready, no IAC meeting was in contemplation for this week. I undertook to ascertain from the DCI Monday next whether or not he desired a meeting next week on this single point.

11. While Mr. McMahon was in the office, Mr. Davidson brought in some representatives of OCI who briefed us on further Navy operational messages relating to the submarine attack. Current evaluation is that it is probable something was there, possibly a sunken ship, but not a submarine.

12. Mr. [] of OPC inquired respecting concurrence by Mr. Wisner or Mr. Dulles in an air briefing for Gen. White, Assistant to the Air Force Deputy Chief for Operations. I advised [] that it would be inappropriate to state that the report had been coordinated with either Mr. Wisner or Mr. Dulles in their absence. The best that he could do was to state that such coordination would be accomplished Wednesday morning. This settled his problem.

13. At the request of Fisher Howe, went over to State and consulted with him and Mr. Polyzoides respecting a briefing to be given the Secretary on tripartite security matters Monday morning. I undertook to obtain the DCI's views on their briefing, a copy of which they gave to me, the first thing on Monday. I authorized them to say that I was familiar with the views of both Mr. Douglass and the DCI on this matter and did not feel that they would have any substantial disagreements with the course of action being proposed in such briefing. Mrs. Johnson undertook to prepare a written briefing for the DCI first thing Monday.

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